# ***INSTRUCTIONS****: Make a copy of this document and save it in your ENGLISH folder as “Your last name, The Border”. Read through The Border once. On a second read-through, identify each line of the poem as containing any one or more of the following types of figurative language: simile (S), metaphor(M), assonance(A), alliteration(AL), hyperbole(H), personification(P) and/or onomatopoeia (O). Be prepared to share out your ideas on these references.*

# *The Border: A Double Sonnet*

[Alberto Ríos](https://poets.org/poet/alberto-rios) - 1952-

The border is a line that birds cannot see. (M, AL)

The border is a beautiful piece of paper folded carelessly in half. (M, AL)

The border is where flint first met steel, starting a century of fires. ( AL, P)

The border is a belt that is too tight, holding things up but making it hard to breathe. (M, AL)

The border is a rusted hinge that does not bend. (M)

The border is the blood clot in the river’s vein.(M,P, AL)

The border says *stop* to the wind, but the wind speaks another language, and keeps going. (P, AL,O)

The border is a brand, the “Double-X” of barbed wire scarred into the skin of so many.(M, AL, A)

The border has always been a welcome stopping place but is now a stop sign, always red.(AL, R)

The border is a jump rope still there even after the game is finished. (M)

The border is a real crack in an imaginary dam. (M, O)

The border used to be an actual place, but now, it is the act of a thousand imaginations.(AL)

The border, the word *border*, sounds like *order*, but in this place they do not rhyme. ( A)

The border is a handshake that becomes a squeezing contest.(M)

The border smells like cars at noon and wood smoke in the evening.(S)

The border is the place between the two pages in a book where the spine is bent too far. (M, AL)

The border is two men in love with the same woman. (M, P)

The border is an equation in search of an equals sign.(M,AL)

The border is the location of the factory where lightning and thunder are made.(M)

The border is “NoNo” The Clown, who can’t make anyone laugh. (M, P)

The border is a locked door that has been promoted.(M)

The border is a moat but without a castle on either side. (M)

The border has become Checkpoint *Chale*. (O, AL)

The border is a place of plans constantly broken and repaired and broken. (AL)

The border is mighty, but even the parting of the seas created a path, not a barrier. (AL)

The border is a big, neat, clean, clear black line on a map that does not exist.(AL)

The border is the line in new bifocals: below, small things get bigger; above, nothing changes.(AL)

The border is a skunk with a white line down its back. (M)

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